

House Resolution No. 2996

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State educators who bring glory and honor to themselves and to this great state through the excellence of their achievements; and

Whereas, Dr. Paul Rutherford is a teacher at the Summit Technology Academy in the Lee's Summit R-VII School District which educates more than fifteen thousand students through the efforts of approximately one thousand certified staff in sixteen elementary, three middle, and three high school facilities; and

Whereas, Dr. Rutherford has attained considerable distinction as one of only ninety-five teachers nationwide and the only teacher in the state of Missouri to receive a prestigious 2003 Presidential Award for Math and Science; and

Whereas, established in 1983, the Presidential Award for Math and Science is administered for the White House by the National Science Foundation to identify outstanding mathematics and science teachers from all fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Territories, and United States Department of Defense Schools; and

Whereas, even though it meant giving up a promising military career as a naval flight officer, Paul Rutherford decided to enter the field of education after he joined the Big Brother/Big Sister program while stationed in Monterrey, California, and discovered that his "real world" experiences could have a highly positive impact on youth as they prepared for the future; and

Whereas, a teacher since 1984, Dr. Rutherford employs a theoretical-based approach to teaching, gives his students time and materials so they can discover scientific laws themselves, sends young scholars out every week to work with engineers, and sees that his students volunteer at the local elementary school as science teachers; and

Whereas, in addition to earning the Presidential Award for Math and Science, Dr. Rutherford has been named this year as the top math and science teacher in Missouri and as the recipient of the R-VII Excellence in Teaching Award from the Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the dedication, commitment, knowledge, and skills embodied in the life and teaching of Paul Rutherford and to convey to him this legislative body's heartiest congratulations upon receiving the 2003 Presidential Award for Math and Science; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Dr. Paul Rutherford of Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Bob Johnson
District No. 47

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and

correct copy of House Resolution No. 2996, adopted May 12, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker